



The School of Law and the US Supreme Court

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The University of Akron School of Law is justly proud of its heritage, and that includes its United States Supreme Court connections.

We understand retired Chief Justice Earl Warren presided at the 1973 dedication of the C. Blake McDowell Law Building.

In 1987, retired Chief Justice Warren E. Burger delivered a lecture and visited classes at the invitation of former Associate Justice Arthur J. Goldberg.

How did a former Associate Justice come to invite a retired Chief Justice to lecture at the Akron School of Law?

Akron Law was tremendously honored to have former Justice Goldberg join the faculty to teach two six-week courses, in fall 1984 (as holder of the Brennan Chair), and fall 1989 (as holder of the John F. Seiberling Chair in Constitutional Law).

Former Associate Justice Goldberg taught a United States Supreme Court Seminar. Students studied and argued the cases that were then pending before the nation's highest court, with Justice Goldberg presiding. This exceedingly rare opportunity to gain insights into constitutional litigation was cherished by students and those of us on the faculty and staff who also found him an inspiring mentor and friend.

Later, in 2000, sitting Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor spoke at the Dean's Club Dinner and met with our students. The first female Justice spoke of the Court and challenges she faced early on in her career.

These visits, alongside the US Supreme Court litigation with which several of our law faculty have engaged, strengthened our program and the standing of the School of Law.